local fishermen who, at the investigation of the Political agitators, complained that the sale of frozen fish was adversely affecting the sale of their raw fish. The question of working the Plant again and the manner in which it could be best done is now under the consideration of Government.

Cold Storage Plant.

187. ✻ **MR. K. R. NARAYANAN** (*Vaikam* cum *Kottayam*): Will the Government be pleased to state the amount spent till now for the cold storage plant?

MR. K. R. NARAYANA AIYAR (*Director of Agriculture and Fisherie*): Rs. 22,344-23-12.

MR. P. SIVARAMA PILLAI: Is the Cold Storage Plant working now?

MR. K. R. NARAYANA AIYAR: It is not working just now.

MR. P. SIVARAMA PILLAI: May I know why?

MR. K. R. NARAYANA AIYAR: The reason is given in part (c) of question No. 186. The working of the plant was stopped on account of the political agitation.

PRESIDENT: The political agitators printed some pamphlets and distributed them among the fishermen saying that it was a new way of victimising them. Some of the pamphlets are placed on the Secretary's table. It was also circulated by the political body that it was a part of Government's policy to starve the millions of fishermen.

New bridge in the Quilon-Mukhathala road.

188. ✻ **MR. S. NARAYANA PILLAI** (*Quilon* cum *Kottarakara*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether representations have been made to the Government or the P. W. D. that the new bridge (now under construction) in the Quilon-Mukhathala road is insufficient to carry the flood water from one side of the Ela to the other;

(*b*) if the answer to (*a*) is in the affirmative, the action taken by them in the matter;

(*c*) whether complaints have been received from the ryots of the place to the effect that rain water washed away their cultivation and silted up their paddy lands;

(*d*) whether, and if so, what action has been taken in regard to the complaints referred to in (*c*); and

(*e*) the estimated loss suffered by the ryots on account of the flooding of their lands during the monsoon this year?

MR. S. SESHA AIYAR (*Deputy Chief Engineer*): (*a*) Yes. By the P. W. D.

(*b*) The site was inspected and steps taken to provide a spillway on the embankment of the road to the west of the new bridge as an outlet for surplus flood water.

(*c*) Yes.

(*d*) Site was inspected by officers of the P. W. D. and steps taken to provide preventive measures for relief.

(*e*) Not known.

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